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REMARKS

Previously presented claims 37-41 were added as new claims in the response filed December 11, 2006. Applicant takes notice that claims 37-41 do not appear to have been considered by the Examiner. More particularly, claims 37-41 were not indicated to be pending nor were they rejected in the present Final Office Action mailed March 13, 2007. Applicant respectfully requests clarification as to whether claims 37-41 have been allowed.

Applicant has reviewed the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) online service. The Copy Fee Worksheet dated December 11, 2006, which is attached herein with this response, correctly states the number of currently pending claims as 36 and the number of currently pending independent claims as 2, which includes previously presented claims 37-41. Conversely, the Claim Index, which is also attached herein with this response, erroneously lists as pending only original claims 1-7.

If the Examiner has not allowed claims 37-41, Applicant respectfully submits that the present Final Office Action is improper and requests a new Non-Final Office Action.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102 & 103

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,888,322 issued to Dowling et al. (hereinafter "Dowling"). Dowling describes, "A color-changing device which includes an enclosure at least a portion of which is material which is desired to change color (See Abstract)." Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dowling in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,652,128 issued to Misaras (hereinafter "Misaras"). Misaras describes, "an apparatus and method of perforating the cover layer or soft skin of an automotive trim panel such as an instrument panel with a laser to allow light to bleed through the perforations (See Abstract)."

Original claim 1 specifically requires, "...an indicator assembly for indicating events associated with the computing device..." that is "configured to produce an indicator image at an outer surface of the housing when activated." By way of example, such events may include status information that may correspond to I/O connectivity status, wireless connectivity status, network connectivity status, processor status, remote status, and/or the like (See paragraph 94)." While Dowling may disclose systems and methods for changing the color of a device enclosure,

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Dowling does not teach or suggest creating an indicator image based on events associated with a computing device.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by Dowling. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Misaras fails to cure the deficiencies of Dowling, and hence, it is respectfully submitted that the outstanding rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Of particular note, claim 4 specifically requires a white LED in addition to red, green and blue LEDs. Although Dowling discloses the use of red, green and blue LEDs, Dowling does not disclose the use of a white LED. As described in paragraph 235 of the present application, "although white light can be produced by mixing red, blue and green light together, it is typically not an accurate white." Since Dowling does not disclose the use of a white LED, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is not anticipated by Dowling and that the rejection of claim 4 is improper and should be withdrawn.


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SUMMARY

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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